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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Anura, Bufonidae, *Rhinella boulengeri* Chaparro, Pramuk, Gluesenkamp and Frost, 2007: Distribution extension, state of Bahia, Brazil

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ABSTRACT: Our new records from two protected areas in the municipalities of Itacaré and Uruçuca, both in southern Bahia, Brazil, extend the known distribution area of *Rhinella boulengeri* 180 km south from the type locality (Salvador - Rio Cururipe) and 112 km northeast from the municipality of Arataca, state of Bahia.

The family Bufonidae Gray, 1825 has a cosmopolitan distribution except for the Madagascan, Oceanic and Australian region, although it has been introduced in many regions of the world. It is one of the most diversified anuran families concerning size, morphology and coloration patterns. Currently, the Bufonidae are divided into 48 genera. From Brazil, 73 species classified into seven genera have been reported. The genus *Rhinella* Fitzinger, 1826 is represented by 77 species widely distributed in the Neotropics, one of them (*Rhinella marina*) has been introduced in the Oceanic region (Frost 2011).

Rhinella boulengeri was originally described as *Phryniscus proboscideus* by Boulenger in 1882. In 1976, this species was redescribed (Izecksohn 1976) and considered as *Rhamphophryne proboscidea.* Currently it is allocated in the genus *Rhinella* by Chaparro, Pramuk, Gluesenkamp and Frost (2007). *Rhinella boulengeri* is a small bufonid that an adult male measures about 41.3 mm in snout-vent length (Feio *et al.* 2003). The most recent records of the species, beside the type locality, are from Arataca in Bahia (Feio *et al.* 2003), and Almenara in northeastern Minas Gerais (Feio and Caramaschi 2002), Brazil.

Rhinella boulengeri is typically found on leaf-litter in pristine forests, often associated with small streams (Pimenta and Juncá 2004). Several young individuals have been found near a small stream during the day and it is assumed that this species is diurnal (Feio *et al*. 2003). Herein we provide two new records of *Rhinella boulengeri* from two protected areas in Brazil. Both are situated at least 18 km from each other and comprise remaining patches of the Atlantic Forest. The forest in southern Bahia is arranged in a mosaic of isolated fragments in different succession stages (Martini *et al*. 2007). *Rhinella boulengeri* is classified as data deficient by IUCN (Pimenta and Juncá 2004). It is considered to be rare and might be threatened by the disconnection between these habitats.

One male individual of *R. boulengeri* was collected at Parque Estadual Serra do Conduru (14°29'S, 39°06'W, 250 m a.s.l.), district of Serra Grande, municipality of Uruçuca, Bahia. This specimen was observed on 17 December 2008 at 7:30 h near the main trail. Due to heavy rainfall the night before, a few little temporary ponds and small ditches had formed on the forest floor near the trail. The voucher specimen is deposited in the Coleção Zoológica da Universidade Estadual de Santa Cruz (MZUESC 8148).

Another male individual was collected at Reserva Particular do Patrimônio Natural Capitão (RPPN Capitão, Figure 1), in the municipality of Itacaré, Bahia (14°19' S, 39°04' W, 126 m a.s.l.). On 24 September 2010, at about 16:00 h, this specimen was found moving slowly under the dense leaf litter in an area of primary forest. Near the

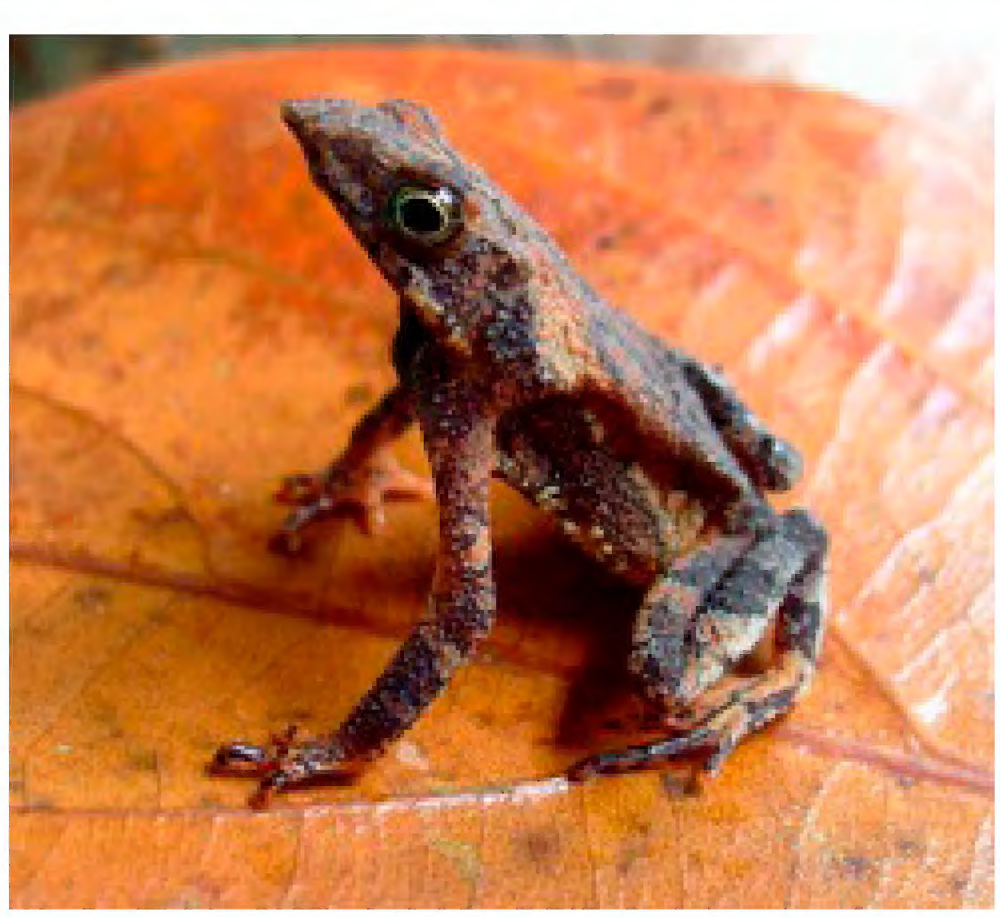

FIGURE 1. Male *Rhinella boulengeri* registered in the municipality of Itacaré, state of Bahia, northeastern Brazil (ZUEC 16636).

site where the animal has been captured, there was a small stream in a distance of approximately 25 m. The voucher specimen is deposited in the Museu de Zoologia "Prof. Adão José Cardoso", Universidade Estadual de Campinas (ZUEC 16636).

Our records extend the known distribution area of *Rhinella boulengeri* 180 km south from the type locality (Salvador - Rio Cururipe) and 112 km northeast from the municipality of Arataca, state of Bahia (Figure 2). The specimens were collected under granted ICMBio permanent license number 13708-1.

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